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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/868,586	02/11/2002	Wilfried Fischer	4440	2756
7590	09/09/2004		EXAMINER	
Anderson Kill & Olick 1251 Avenue of the Americas New York, NY 10020-1182				GUPTA, ANISH
		ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	
		1654		

DATE MAILED: 09/09/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/868,586	FISCHER, WILFRIED
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Anish Gupta	1654

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
 - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 June 2004.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-14 and 17 is/are pending in the application.
 - 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-6,8-10 and 17 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) 7 and 11-14 is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ . |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ . | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ . |

DETAILED ACTION

All rejection made in the previous office action and not cited herein are hereby withdrawn.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

1. Claims 1-6, 8-10 and 17 remain rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Komiya et al.

The claims are drawn to a cyclosporin solution comprising dexpantenol, an anionic surfactant and a nonionic surfactant.

Applicants argue that the topical preparation of Komiya et al. does not disclose the use of a surfactant and that any surfactant is good for the purposes of the topical preparation disclosed. The instant invention employs dexpantenol as a pharmaceutical active agent, but as an adjuvant for

the preparation of colloidal solutions which are stable in water and can be diluted with water without precipitation. The secondary reference does not rectify teachings, or the lack thereof, of Komiya et al. since Thompson discloses Panthenol as one of several pharmaceutically active agents. Further, there is no teaching of surfactants that have been included as compulsory ingredients. Taken as a whole, the prior art does not teach a cyclosporin solution which is readily miscible with water and forms a stable cyclosporin solution.

Applicant's arguments filed 6-14-04 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

First, the MPEP is quite clear that the motivation to combine reference need not be the same as Applicants. The MPEP states ins section 2144:

“[i]t is not necessary that the prior art suggest the combination to achieve the same advantage or result discovered by applicant. In re Linter, 458 F.2d 1013, 173 USPQ 560 (CCPA 1972) (discussed below); In re Dillon, 919 F.2d 688, 16 USPQ2d 1897 (Fed. Cir. 1990), cert. denied, 500 U.S. 904 (1991) (discussed below). Although Ex parte Levengood, 28 USPQ2d 1300, 1302 (Bd. Pat. App. & Inter. 1993) states that obviousness cannot be established by combining references “without also providing evidence of the motivating force which would impel one skilled in the art to do what the patent applicant has done” (emphasis added), reading the quotation in context it is clear that while there must be motivation to make the claimed invention, there is no requirement that the prior art provide the same reason as the applicant to make the claimed invention.

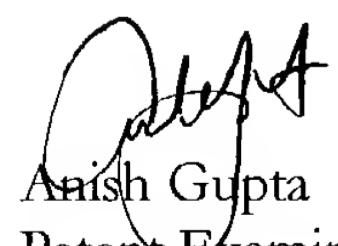
Here, the motivation for combining the reference was not to use the dexpanthenol as a adjuvant, but to combine both cyclosporin and dexpanthenol to treat dermatitis and psoriasis since both are taught to treat dermatitis and psoriasis individually in the art. Applicants have not provided a sufficient basis to effectively rebut this basis for the combination of the references. The mere fact that neither reference discloses the effectiveness of dexapenthenol as an adjuvant in a cyclosporin formulation is inconsequential since the prior art provide ample motivation to combine both cyclosporin and dexpanthenol to treat dermatitis and psoriasis.

As a note, Applicants response also implied that the prior art does not disclose a "solution." It should be noted that a solution is routinely defined as a homogenous mixture of two or more substances. A topical cream, that has a mixture of dexamphenethol and cyclosporin would qualify as a homogenous mixture and thus a solution.

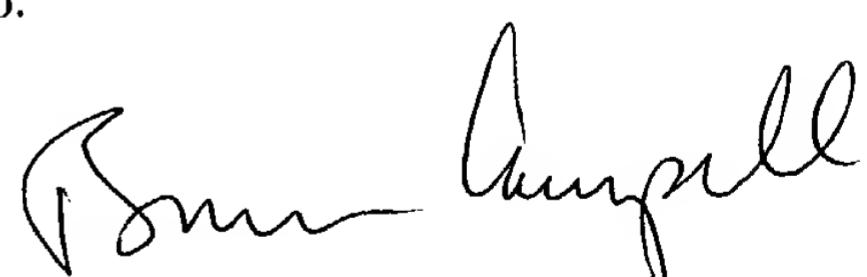
For these reasons and the reasons set forth in the previous office action, the rejection is maintained.

2. Claims 7 and 11-14 remain and claim 11 is now objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.
3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Anish Gupta whose telephone number is (571)272-0965. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bruce Campbell, can normally be reached on (571) 272-0974. The fax phone number of this group is (703) 308-4242.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0196.


Anish Gupta
Patent Examiner

08/01/04



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